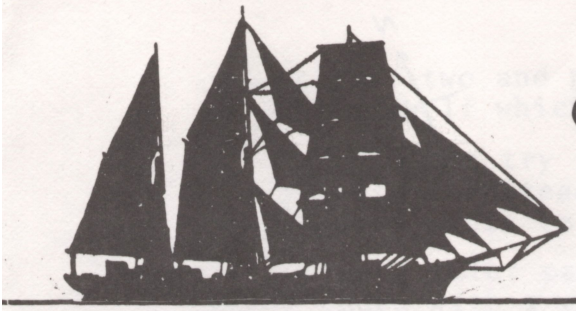

Searchlight: Ship to Shore News from r/v Regina Maris

Vol. 4 No. 1 Isla Santa Cantamina January 8, 1979

New Year's greetings to all from REGINA and her crew! This morning, our first "at sea" of 1979, we are anchored in the somewhat scanty lee of Isla Santa Cantamina, a seven mile long razor back of rock seven miles off shore on the western side of the Sea of Cortes. There are several isolated off shore islands like this one in the Gulf - all very dry, rocky, steep-sided, sparsely vegetated and rarely visited, except by sea birds. Many, because of their distance from other lands, like the islands of the Galapagos, have developed indigenous species of animals. Espiritu Santo has its own black jackrabbit, Ceralvo a two legged lizard, and this one is famous as the home of the only known rattle legged rattlesnake - an oddity of nature that somehow smacks of "dirty tricks."

The reason for the paucity of visitors was clear as we approached last evening. The whole east side of the island is one long cliff and had it not been for the reassurances of the Baja Cruising Guide, we probably would not have had the temerity to search out and find in the moonlight the tiny cove at the southeast tip where we are now anchored partly sheltered from the rising Northwest wind.

In any case I suspect that REGINA people will be added to that small and select company to have visited this remote and nearly untouched land.

Our arrival here brought to its close an event filled week. New Year's Day was also arrival day for our full complement of students. By evening our number had swelled to 33 and the ship was filled with half unpacked bags, folks learning to operate the head, and folks just trying to find out how to survive in the complex and seemingly alien world of a sea-going square rigger.

Next day was supplies day - late because of the holiday and complicated by strong winds as well as lack of space at the municipal pier. Nevertheless we finally managed to dock, stern to, with anchors out ahead. Motor and crew came aboard in no time thanks to the hard work of many willing hands. So that by evening we were safely back in the anchorage as the wind died down.

Next day we finally escaped La Paz and headed northeast for Yazaros on the mainland side, stopping on the way for another look at the sea lion colony on Los Islotes, just north of Paipipa Island. Tevalos, a little fishing town, is on a shallow lagoon where grey whales have been reported in the past, although not recently. We did however find several finbacks, and wonder

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CORTES
Espiritu
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Island
La Paz
Isla Cerralvo
Cabo San Lucas
MAZATLAN

of wonders, two and probably three blue whales at the edge of the 30 fathom shelf which edges this town.

We did not try to enter the lagoon because of its apparent shallowness. Instead we anchored and sent people ashore in the small shore boats to explore.

Then a quiet passage across the Gulf to Carmen Island under power ended with a glorious sail down here yesterday to complete the first week of this expedition, Number 12. As seems to happen so often, our week has been filled with new places, new adventures, and new friends.

Sincerely, Dr. George Nichols, Jr
Master, r/v REGINA MARIS

****SHORE NEWS****

Join us May 12 for the very first Ocean Research and Education Society Membership Whale Watch! We've chartered the SEA SWALLOW a power boat with a capacity of 70 and will motor out to Stellwagon Bank off Gloucester to watch the northern migration of humpback, finback, and with lots of luck, right whales to these feeding grounds. Although REGINA MARIS is on the west coast, we hope you'll join us to see for yourself these magnificent creatures we're so crazy about.

Departure: 12 May at 9 a.m.
from Lynnway Marina
181 the Lynnway
Lynn, Mass

Return: Approximately 5-5:30 p.m.

Bring your own lunch, lots of film, and for insurance, seasick pills. We recommend Bonine.

Fee: $12.00 for members
$15.00 for non-members

Please let this office know if you are planning to attend.

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The Ocean Research & Education Society is joining the world of gourmet cuisine! As a fund-raising method for our academic, research program on whales, conducted on board the Tall Ship, REGINA MARIS, the Society is coordinating as many seafaring recipes from ships - large & small, from bathtub rubber duckies to ocean racing yachts to cruising yachts to Tall Ships - to be compiled into what we hope will be an extremely useful cookbook for galley gourmets all over the world.

Therefore, any favourite recipes you have that have either been made at sea or that you feel would be a super addition to any cruise are welcome. We are not only soliciting your recipes, but also any sure-fire seasick cures, interesting anecdotes, or provisioning suggestions. Whatever ideas you have always wanted to find in a cookbook - for land and/or sea - and have yet to see in print, please submit as well. We will also have an international recipe section from all the nations r/v REGINA MARIS has visited - from Britain to Greece, from Labrador to the Caribbean to the Galapagos Islands to the Far East!

We will place your name, boat name (if applicable), and recipe in our cookbook, if the recipe is not duplicated. It is up to you to help us get to print!!! Many thanks!

Name _____ Boat Name _____

Recipe _____ For how many? _____

Ingredients: _____

_____

_____

Method: _____

_____

_____

_____

Were you ... cruising? _____ racing? _____

Geographic position, if applicable _____

Please send this completed form to:

Anne Garnett, Assistant Director
Ocean Research & Education Society
64 Commercial Wharf
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Please feel free to submit as many recipes and ideas as you like!

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